



JONESVILLE ANIMAL HOSPITAL

## Post Surgical Instructions For Your Pet

Your pet has recently undergone a surgical procedure which required the use of anesthesia. Most pets will be less active than normal for 12-24 hours after anesthesia. Even after the anesthetic side effects have resolved, you may notice decreased activity for several days due to post operative discomfort. If pain medication has been prescribed, please administer the medication as directed. Although it is usually best to give the pain medication with food whenever possible, the first dose can be administered 1-1 ½ hours after arriving home, even if your pet has not eaten.

Although your pet may not be interested in eating, you may offer food and water 1-2 hours after bringing your pet home. Since general anesthesia can sometimes cause nausea, be sure to offer your pet ½ of their normal meal tonight. Do not be concerned if your pet won't eat or drink tonight as this is common post surgical behavior. However, if your pet has not had anything to eat or drink within 24 hours, please call.

If skin stitches are present at the surgery site, an appointment will be necessary to have them removed in 10-14 days. A special collar may have been sent home for your pet to wear to prevent licking of the incision site. If so, please keep the collar on at all times to prevent irritation and possible infection of the surgery site. The collar needs to be worn until the stitches are removed.

Most surgeries require some level of exercise restriction afterward. Please check with the doctor regarding the specific limitations for your pet's activity. Furthermore, it is best to avoid bathing until the surgery site is healed and/or the sutures have been removed.

Please administer any other medications as directed and follow any additional instructions provided by the doctor.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.